

Message

From: Greene, Richard W. (DNREC) [Richard.Greene@state.de.us]
Sent: 4/1/2015 9:38:51 PM
To: MacKnight, Evelyn [MacKnight.Evelyn@epa.gov]; Schneider, John W. (DNREC) [John.Schneider@state.de.us]; Barath, Mark [Barath.Mark@epa.gov]; drago, helene [drago.helene@epa.gov]; Knabb, Michelle [Knabb.Michelle@epa.gov]; Richardson, William [Richardson.William@epa.gov]
CC: Mirsajadi, Hassan (DNREC) [Hassan.Mirsajadi@state.de.us]; Miller, Philip (DNREC) [Philip.Miller@state.de.us]; Piorko, Frank M. (DNREC) [Frank.Piorko@state.de.us]; Pomatto, Lawrence T. (DNREC) [Lawrence.Pomatto@state.de.us]; Smith, Bradford L. (DNREC) [Bradford.Smith@state.de.us]; Wolanski, David P. (DNREC) [David.Wolanski@state.de.us]; Capacasa, Jon [Capacasa.jon@epa.gov]; Copeland, Stephen [Copeland.Stephen@epa.gov]
Subject: Re: 2014 WATAR Progress Report
Attachments: BASF Presentation_Jan10_2013.pptx; PCBs in Municipal Products Report Final 2015 03 02.pdf

Evelyn,

Attached is a presentation that provides some additional details concerning inadvertent production of PCBs at the BASF pigment plant in Newport. The presentation was made to BASF plant personnel and corporate representatives. The DRBC, New Castle County Special Services and the City of Wilmington were also present. Based on the presentation, BASF agreed to perform an internal trackdown as part of their pre-treatment permit with New Castle County. BASF has been making progress, which DNREC, DRBC and the County have been tracking closely.

Inadvertent production of PCBs at the BASF Newport plant is not unique. It is, as we are learning, quite common. Some of the PCB ends up in liquid and solid waste streams and some ends up in commercial and retail paint products (See the attached report recently published by the City of Spokane for instance). High resolution, congener-specific testing methods (first used by Delaware in 1994 and later introduced to the DRBC and others) have slowly but surely revealed the PCB problem to be far more complex than commonly thought.

With regard to the Feb 12, 2015 policy memo, yes, we were glad to see EPA HQ encouraging collaboration on contaminated sediments. Such collaboration is exactly what the WATAR Program is all about. The WATAR Team has considerable experience in assessing contaminated sediments and looks forward to working with your staff on the issue at some point.

Rick

From: MacKnight, Evelyn <MacKnight.Evelyn@epa.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, April 1, 2015 4:41 PM
To: Schneider, John W. (DNREC); Barath, Mark; drago, helene; Knabb, Michelle; Richardson, William
Cc: Greene, Richard W. (DNREC); Mirsajadi, Hassan (DNREC); Miller, Philip (DNREC); Mirsajadi, Hassan (DNREC); Piorko, Frank M. (DNREC); Pomatto, Lawrence T. (DNREC); Smith, Bradford L. (DNREC); Wolanski, David P. (DNREC); Capacasa, Jon; Copeland, Stephen
Subject: RE: 2014 WATAR Progress Report

Thanks, John. This report is really interesting. Seems like there is a lot of good work happening. I was interested in the Wilmington/BASF Pretreatment work. There is a new policy memo issued by EPA's AA's for CWA, Enforcement, and SF promoting collaboration on contaminated sediments. I am including a link FYI in case you haven't seen it. <http://water.epa.gov/scitech/swguidance/standards/library/upload/promoting-water-sediments-memo.pdf>

From: Schneider, John W. (DNREC) [mailto:John.Schneider@state.de.us]

Sent: Wednesday, April 01, 2015 4:06 PM

To: Barath, Mark; drago, helene; Knabb, Michelle; MacKnight, Evelyn; Richardson, William

Cc: Greene, Richard W. (DNREC); Mirsajadi, Hassan (DNREC); Miller, Philip (DNREC); Mirsajadi, Hassan (DNREC); Piorko, Frank M. (DNREC); Pomatto, Lawrence T. (DNREC); Smith, Bradford L. (DNREC); Wolanski, David P. (DNREC)

Subject: 2014 WATAR Progress Report

Attached...